

# BRITISH MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL

177-179 Burton Road  
Manchester M20 2BB

Tel: 0161 445 6111  
Fax: 0161 445 4500  
email:office@thebmc.co.uk

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Saturday 19 April 2008 – The Blue Bell Hotel, Belford, Northumberland

Minutes of the BMC AGM held at The Blue Bell Hotel, Belford, Northumberland on Saturday 19 April 2008 at 5.30pm.

<b>Directors Present:</b>	Charles Clarke	President	Director
	Vic Odell	Treasurer	Director
	Rab Carrington	Vice-President	Director
	Pat Littlejohn	Vice-President	Director
	Bill Renshaw	Vice-President	Director
	Dave Turnbull	CEO	Company Sec

### Voting Members Present:

(Note: membership categories stated refers to those recorded by individuals on the AGM registration form).

John Earl	NMC
John Dalrymple	NMC
Ann-Marie Carter	NMC
Derek Cutts	NMC
Barry Imeson	NMC
John Mountain	NMC
Scott Titt	Wessex MC
Steve Gille	Merseyside MC
Andy Blakely	Craven MC
Deirdre Collier	Craven MC
Iain McCallum	KMC
Maureen Linton	FRCC
D G Roberts	FRCC
C Roberts	FRCC
Paul Exley	FRCC
P Rane	FRCC
M Rowe	FRCC
Paul Braithwaite	Alpine Club
Roger Wiltshire	Bowline CC
Graham Richmond	Bowline CC
Liz Wilson	Mynydd CC
Dave Wilson	Mynydd CC
Martin Kocsis	Mynydd CC
Peter Dixon	Wayfarers & Oldham MC
Alan Linford	YRC, LMC, Wayfarers & Climbers' Club
David Lanceley	Climbers' Club
Rehan Siddiqui	Climbers' Club
Mark Vallance	Climbers' Club
Martin Doyle	Climbers' Club
Mick Johnson	Climbers' Club & FRCC
Michele Hart	Climbers' Club & FRCC
Ian Carr	Climbers' Club & FRCC
Y Alexander	Club
Tim Marshall	Club
Fiona Devine	Club
S Darling	Club
Al Metelko	Club
A J Illston	Club
D Lee	Club

Nick Bond	Club
Rosemary Fox	Club
Alan Hinkes	Club
Robert Pettigrew	Honorary member
Kin Cha	Individual & NMC
Daphne Prichard	Individual & LMC
Mike Raine	Individual & Climbers' Club
John Shaw	Individual & Lancs Caving & Climbing
Ken Jackson	Individual & club
Derek Walker	Individual & club
Alison Stockwell	Individual & club
John Mason	Individual
Mike Pinder	Individual
Julie Dundas	Individual
Susan Dobson	Individual
Anna Gregory	Individual
K C Gordon	Individual
Steve Long	Individual
Brian Griffiths	Individual
Polly Sullivan	Individual
Iain McKenzie	Individual
Terry Gifford	Individual
Chris Moor	Individual
Ron Kenyon	Family member

**Others Present:**

Richard Doubleday	Perkins Slade
Simon Moody	Warners
Lucy Roper	Warners

**BMC Staff Present:**

Kate Anwyl	Project Co-ordinator
Lynda Buckley	MST Manager
Nick Colton	Deputy CEO
Jim Krawiecki	MST Administrator
Arun Patel	Senior MST Administrator

**1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence Actions**

1.1 The President, Charles Clarke welcomed all those present and thanked them for their support and attendance. He briefly ran through the voting procedures for the meeting and noted that all proxy votes submitted in accordance with the requirements set down in the BMC Memorandum & Articles of Association would be included in each vote.

1.1.1 Apologies were received from: Gareth Williams, Sir Chris Bonington, Alan Blackshaw, Angela Soper, Roger Smith, David Love, Dennis Gray, Martin Wragg, Henry Folkard, Bill Ruthven, Bob Moulton, Dave Bishop, Ian McNaught-Davis, Lord Chorley, Michael Hunt, Trevor Langhorne, Tim Elliott and Gordon Adshead.

**2. Minutes of the previous AGM held on Saturday 21 April 2007**

2.1 The minutes were accepted as an accurate record and were signed by the President.

**Agreed**

**For: 530 Against: 1 Abstentions: 0**

**3. Adoption of the 2007 Annual Report**

3.1 The President presented the 2007 Annual Report.

Bob Pettigrew expressed a concern about the phrase 'coaching' appearing in the Annual Report.

- 3.2** Mike Pinder proposed the adoption of the Annual Report seconded by Scott Titt. The result (including proxy votes), was:  
**For: 537 Against: 1 Abstentions: 0** **Agreed**
- 4. Adoption of 2007 Annual Accounts**
- 4.1** The Treasurer, Vic Odell presented the 2007 Annual Accounts.
- 4.2** Brian Griffiths proposed the adoption of the Accounts seconded by Iain McCallum. The result of the vote was:  
**For: 536 Against: 3 Abstentions: 0** **Agreed**
- 5. Report from & Appointment of Auditors**
- 5.1** The Treasurer presented the Auditors report and noted that the Finance Committee had recommended the re-appointment of FFT Chartered Accountants (formerly Salter Newman Ltd) as auditors for the year ending 31 December 2008.
- 5.2** Proposed by Mark Vallance and seconded by Iain McCallum. The result of the vote was:  
**For: 536 Against: 5 Abstentions: 0** **Agreed**
- 6. Elections**
- 6a Re-elections:** The President thanked Bill Renshaw (Vice President) and Vic Odell for their valuable contributions over the past 3 years.
- 6.a.1 The following candidates were eligible for re-election:**  
**President: Charles Clarke** (eligible until April 2009).  
**Vice President: Rab Carrington** (eligible until April 2009).  
**Vice President: Pat Littlejohn** (eligible until April 2010).
- 6.a.2** Steve Gille proposed the re-elections, seconded by Daphne Pritchard. The result of the vote was:  
**For: 540 Against: 2 Abstentions: 1** **Agreed**
- 6b New Elections:** The President introduced the candidates.
- 6.b.1 The following candidates were eligible for election:**  
**Joint Honorary Treasurer: Brian Griffiths**  
**Joint Honorary Treasurer: David Lanceley**  
**Vice President: Rehan Siddiqui**
- 6.b.2** Steve Gille proposed the elections seconded by Daphne Pritchard. The result of the vote was:  
**For: 536 Against: 5 Abstentions: 2** **Agreed**
- 6.1.3** CC welcomed Brian Griffiths, David Lanceley and Rehan Siddiqui to their new positions within the BMC.

## 7. Subscriptions for 1 Jan – 31 Dec 2009

### 7.1 Resolution: *The National Council recommends the following subscription rates for 2009:*

Individual Member	£29.95
Individual Student/Unwaged/Under 18	£17.35
Family Membership	£51.00
Club Affiliation Fee	£250.00 for the first 20 members and £11.75 per capita thereafter
Student Club Affiliation Fee	£175.00 for the first 20 members and £8.75 per capita thereafter
Club Member (Under 18)	£7.00
Club Upgrade to Individual	£15.20
Associate Member	£180.00 (net)

- 7.1.1 Tim Marshall, Steve Gille and Peter Dixon voiced their concerns about the rising subscriptions and warned that clubs may not be able to continue supporting the BMC if fees carry on rising. The Treasurer emphasised the cost of delivering the BMC's work programmes, including Access & Conservation work. He added that this work had to be paid for somehow and that membership subscriptions are vital in this regard. **Noted**
- 7.1.2 Brian Griffiths summarised how club subscriptions are spent per member. This breaks down as: £2.00 spent on Access & Conservation work, £1.23 on AGM and Area development, £0.03 on Huts, £0.20 on technical work, £0.95 on volunteer support, £3.03 for membership processing, £0.76 on Summit magazine, £3.13 on Civil Liability insurance and £1.42 on national and international representation. He noted that these costs totalled £12.75 and that they do not include support for the BMC's wider work on heritage, training, competitions, managed crags, youth, guidebooks etc. **Noted**
- 7.1.3 Andy Blakely raised several concerns about the cost of club member subscriptions and BMC's apparent focus on climbing as opposed to hill walking. He felt that the BMC did very little for walkers and that subscription increases could lead to an exodus of hill walker members. Bill Renshaw (Chair BMC Access, Conservation & Environment Group) responded by reporting on the BMC's extensive work on access legislation, which is directly relevant to walkers. **Noted**
- 7.1.4 Richard Doubleday (Perkins Slade) stressed the importance of the civil liability insurance to clubs, in particular the cover it provided for club officials and others involved with managing club activities. **Noted**
- 7.1.5 Malcolm Rowe commented that he is a member of several clubs and currently does not claim back multiple refunds. He added that should subscriptions continue to increase he might claim back the extra money, to the detriment of the BMC. Susan Dobson noted that the BMC already encourages members to claim back multiple refunds. **Noted**
- 7.1.6 Mike Pinder stated that he believed in putting money into causes that were worth supporting; if people believe in the work of the BMC they should support it as a 'good thing' rather than for what they get out of it. **Noted**
- 7.1.7 Andy Blakely pointed out that student club subscriptions are due to increase by 30% in 2009. KC Gordon asked if student clubs had decreased in numbers in recent years. Dave Turnbull confirmed that there are a few less BMC affiliated student clubs in 2008. **Noted**

- 7.1.8 The motion was proposed by Mike Pinder and seconded by Scott Titt.  
The result of the vote was:

**Agreed**

**For: 326 Against: 216 Abstentions: 1**

**8. Long-term policy on Individual & Club subscriptions**

- 8.1 Resolution: *"It shall be a strategic objective of the BMC to address the differential between Individual and Club members, such that all categories of members make a proportionate contribution towards the services provided"*.

- 8.2 Rab Carrington expanded on the statement by explaining that the BMC was in the process of reviewing the membership structure with a view to recommending a new structure to the 2009 AGM. He added that clear and transparent communication (between the BMC clubs, Areas and other relevant parties) would be an essential part of this process. He noted that the review had been endorsed by the BMC National Council at its meeting earlier that day.

Proposed by Bob Pettigrew, seconded by Ron Kenyon. The result of the vote was:

**Agreed**

**For: 397 Against: 125 Abstentions: 4**

Date of next AGM: Saturday 25 April 2009.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 7.00pm and the President thanked all those present.